



State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

711 Capitol Way Rm. 206, PO Box 40908 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0908
(360) 753-1111 • FAX (360) 753-1112

Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: pdc@pdc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

January 11, 2021

Clifford Cawthon
1135 SE 228th PL
Kent WA 98031

And delivered electronically to “info.electcliff@gmail.com”

Subject: PDC Order, Case 80163

Dear Clifford Cawthon,

Enclosed is a copy of the Public Disclosure Commission’s Order Imposing Fine that was entered in the above-referenced case. At the December 17, 2020, Brief Enforcement hearing, the Presiding Officer assessed a total civil penalty of \$150 in accordance with WAC 390-37-143, with \$150 of the penalty suspended.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have questions, please contact us by email at pdc@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Electronically Signed by Tabitha Townsend
PDC Staff

Enclosure: Initial Order



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BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

In Re: Compliance with RCW 42.17A

PDC Case 80163

CLIFFORD CAWTHON,

Respondent.

Findings of Fact,
Conclusions of Law, and
Order Imposing Fine

Pursuant to the brief enforcement hearing (brief adjudicative proceeding) notice sent to Clifford Cawthon on November 17, 2020, a brief adjudicative proceeding was held on December 17, 2020, remotely from Olympia, WA by live audio and online transmission, to consider whether the Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to timely file Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1) as a candidate, for the 2020 election cycle. F-1 report, disclosing personal financial information for the prior twelve (12) months was due to be filed within two weeks of becoming a candidate or not later than June 1, 2020.

The hearing was held in accordance with Chapters 34.05 RCW, 42.17A RCW and Chapter 390-37 WAC. Commission Chair, David Ammons, was the Presiding Officer. The Commission staff was represented by Tabitha Townsend, Compliance Coordinator. The Respondent participated in the hearing by telephone.

Having considered the evidence, the Presiding Officer finds as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Respondent is a candidate for State Representative of Legislative District 47 - House.
2. As a candidate for election, the Respondent was required to file a F-1 report within two weeks of becoming a candidate or not later than June 1, 2020.
3. The Respondent filed the F-1 report after the hearing notice, but before the enforcement hearing.
4. The Respondent has no prior violations.

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CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the above facts, as a matter of law, the Presiding Officer concludes as follows:

1. This matter was duly and properly convened, and all jurisdictional, substantive, and procedural requirements have been satisfied.
2. The Respondent violated RCW 42.17A.700 by failing to timely file the F-1 report within two weeks of becoming a candidate or not later than June 1, 2020.

ORDER

On the basis of the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Respondent is assessed a civil penalty of \$150, with \$150 of the penalty suspended, in accordance with the Personal Financial Affairs Statement (F-1) penalty schedule set forth in WAC 390-37-143.

It is further ordered that the Respondent:

- 1. Pay the \$0 civil penalty within 30 days of the date of this Order.**
- 2. Commit no further violations of Chapter 42.17A RCW or Title 390 WAC for a period of 4 years from the date of this order or the suspended \$150 will become due and payable without further Commission action.**

This is an **Initial Order** of the Public Disclosure Commission.

Entered this 11th day of January, 2021.

Public Disclosure Commission

Electronically Signed

Peter Lavalley
Executive Director

I, Tabitha Townsend, certify that I mailed and emailed a copy of this order to the Respondent at their respective address postage pre-paid, and by email on the date stated herein.

Electronically Signed Tabitha Townsend
Signed

1/11/21
Date

APPEALS OF INITIAL ORDER

REVIEW OF INITIAL ORDER - BY THE COMMISSION

You may request that the full Commission review this initial order. To seek review, you must:

- Make the request orally or in writing, stating the reason for review, and identifying what alleged errors are contained in the initial order. *See* WAC 390-37-144(1). Staff may ask for written confirmation of oral requests for review.
- **REQUESTS FOR REVIEW MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE COMMISSION WITHIN TWENTY-ONE (21) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE POSTMARK DATE OF THIS INITIAL ORDER.** Written requests for review should be delivered electronically to the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission by email at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov

If review of this initial order is timely requested, the full Commission will hear the matter. If the Commission is unable to schedule a meeting to consider the request within twenty (20) calendar days, this initial order becomes a final order, and any request for review will automatically be considered a request for reconsideration of a final order. *See* WAC 390-37-144(4). The matter would then be scheduled for consideration and disposition at the next Commission meeting at which it is practicable to do so.

A Respondent does not need to pay a penalty until after the Commission rules on a request for review of an initial order.

FURTHER APPEAL RIGHTS – SUPERIOR COURT

If the Commission does not receive a request for review of this initial order within twenty-one (21) calendar days, the initial order shall be the final order. *See* WAC 390-37-142(5).

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO APPEAL A FINAL ORDER TO SUPERIOR COURT, PURSUANT TO THE PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW PROVISIONS OF RCW 34.05.552.